

**ORDINANCE NO. 28-91
CHAPTER 14
ARTICLE IX
TO PROVIDE FOR A SHORT TERM
WARMING FACILITY AND
TEMPORARY SHELTER REFERRAL
PROGRAM.**

AN ORDINANCE to amend Chapter 14, of the Code of the City of Detroit by adding Article IX, Sections 14-9-1 and 14-9-2 to provide for a short term warming facility and temporary shelter referral program to the Citizens of Detroit.

DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

IT IS HEREBY ORDAINED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE CITY OF DETROIT.

WHEREAS, The Declaration of Rights of the Detroit City Charter states, "The City shall provide for the public peace and health and safety of the persons and property in the City", and continues to cite the right of the people to expect aggressive action by the City's Officers to provide "decent housing ... proper care for all physical or mental health problems . . .", and

WHEREAS, An emergency situation exists in the City of Detroit, following Governor Engler's October 1, 1991 elimination of the General Assistance program, and prior reductions to other social services assistance programs, and

WHEREAS, Outdoor temperatures are at freezing levels and shelters throughout the Metropolitan Detroit area have reported turning away dozens of people, mostly women with children, and

WHEREAS, Homeless persons in Detroit are facing life-threatening situations, and

WHEREAS, There is a demonstrated need to provide safety from the elements for the citizenry who are without shelter, on a declared emergency basis, particularly for warming in the evening and night hours, and

WHEREAS, The City of Detroit holds title to and operates, on a continuing basis, many properties which can be made available as temporary emergency shelters and housing facilities, and

WHEREAS, The safety and welfare of the community at large will benefit from the use of these properties as warming shelters during the winter months;

Now, Therefore,

Section 1. That Chapter 14 of the Code of the City of Detroit be amended by adding Sections 14-9-1 and 14-9-2 as follows:

Sec. 14-9-1. Short Term Warming Shelters

(a) The City of Detroit shall make available a building or buildings, by renting or leasing a privately or publicly owned building (such as a vacant school building or church) or provide vacant public housing

units and/or a city-owned building (for example, Herman Kiefer Hospital, Butzel Family Center, a recreation center) for use as a facility for short term warming shelters.

(b) The short term warming shelter facility shall operate during the hours of 7-00 P.M. and 7:00 A.M.

(c) All buildings used as a short term warming facility shall comply with the Buildings and Safety Engineering Department specifications.

Sec. 14-9-2. Shelter Program.

The City of Detroit shall staff a short term shelter facility, providing referrals to the 963-STAY hotline or an appropriate temporary shelter facility during hours of operations.

Section 2. All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith be and the same are hereby suspended for sixty (60) days, beginning on the date of enactment of this ordinance.

Section 3. This ordinance is declared necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health, safety and welfare of the people of the City of Detroit and is hereby given immediate effect.

Section 4. This ordinance shall expire on the sixty-first (61st) day after enacted unless re-enacted.

(JCC P.	November 6, 199 1)
Passed:	November 6,1991
Published:	November 11, 199 1
Effective:	November 11, 1991

JAMES H. BRADLEY,
City Clerk